



Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona

NEWS RELEASE

1110 West Washington, Suite 290 • Phoenix, Arizona 85007 • www.azwifa.gov

Date: March 13, 2006

Contact: Tiffany N. Troidl, Communications Director: (602) 364-1314

WIFA Chairman Steve Owens Announces \$35,000 Grant to Town of Patagonia for Development of Capital Improvement Plan

PHOENIX – Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA) Chairman Steve Owens today announced that WIFA has awarded a \$35,000 technical assistance grant to the Town of Patagonia.

The grant will help the Town complete an analysis of its drinking water system, update a preliminary engineering report, and identify design alternatives and their potential costs. The grant will also be used to develop a capital improvement plan for the Town's drinking water system.

"This grant will help Patagonia develop cost-effective solutions for their drinking water needs," said Chairman Owens, who is also Director of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. "This effort will help Patagonia plan for its future."

"We are pleased to help communities like Patagonia that need to plan for upgrades to their water infrastructure," said Jay Spector, WIFA Executive Director. "WIFA technical assistance grant funds help communities plan for much needed water infrastructure projects."

WIFA has previously awarded technical assistance funds to the Town in 2001 to explore permitting issues. In 2003, WIFA provided a low-interest loan for construction of the Town's new wastewater treatment plant. The Town saved residents thousands of dollars in interest and loan origination costs by financing their project through WIFA.

-30-

ABOUT THE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AUTHORITY OF ARIZONA

The Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona maintains and improves water quality in Arizona by providing communities and private water systems with access to low-interest financial assistance and technical assistance needed for basic water infrastructure. WIFA's funds are capitalized by contributions from the US Congress and the state of Arizona. As a leader in water infrastructure finance, WIFA has become a premier financial institution both in Arizona and nationally. Visit WIFA's Web site at www.azwifa.gov.